

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed September 27, 2004, the Applicants have amended claim 11, added new claim 23, and canceled claim 12. Claims 11, 13, and 15-23 are presented for examination.

The Examiner objected to the claims because the claim 14 was missing in the preliminary amendment and is not currently pending. 37 CFR 1.126 states:

The original numbering of the claims must be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When claims are added, they must be numbered by the applicant consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claim previously presented (whether entered or not). When the application is ready for allowance, the examiner, if necessary, will renumber the claims consecutively in the order in which they appear or in such order as may have been requested by applicant.

Thus, according to 37 CFR 1.126 the Applicants must preserve the claim numbering throughout prosecution and when the application is in condition for allowance the Examiner will renumber the claims consecutively. The Applicants request that the objection be withdrawn.

The Examiner has indicated that claim 12 recites allowable subject matter. In response, the Applicants have amended claim 11 to include the limitations of claim 12. Claim 12, which is now superfluous, has been canceled. Claim 11, and its remaining dependent claims 13, and 15-23 are now in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Applicant : Heinrich Schenk
Serial No. : 10/629,310
Filed : July 28, 2003
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Attorney's Docket No.: 12816-092001 / S-2497

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2-11-05

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Faustino A. Lichauco', written over a horizontal line.

Faustino A. Lichauco
Reg. No. 41,942

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

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